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03-1088 (BOE 0481 PA)

REMARKS

Applicants first note that its Amendment and Request for Reconsideration, filed on October 24, 2005, was not entered in its entirety. As such, Applicants are proceeding herein based on that premise.

Claims 1, 15, 17, 25, 27 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Specht et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,985,362) in view of Klapper et al. (5,312,362) and further in view of Thom (U.S Application No. 2001/0041753. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection.

However, in an effort to move this case towards allowance, Applicants have first amended independent claims1 to include a moisture resistant compound to the melamine-base foam. The Examiner has indicated previously that such an amendment would result in claim 1 being allowable. In addition, Applicants have cancelled claim 2 without prejudice and amended claim 3 to depend from amended claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 3-14 are now allowable.

Further, Applicants have amended independent claim 15 to include the subject matter of claim 21. The Examiner has indicated previously that such an amendment would result in claim 15 being allowable. In addition, Applicants have canceled claims 18, 20 and 21 without prejudice and corrected the dependencies of claims 22 and 23. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 15, 17, 19 and 22-24 are now allowable as well.

Finally, Applicants have amended independent claim 25 to include the subject matter of claim 29. The Examiner has indicated previously that such an amendment would result in claim 25 being allowable. In addition, Applicants have canceled claim 29 without prejudice. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 25, 27-28, and 30-35 are now allowable as well.

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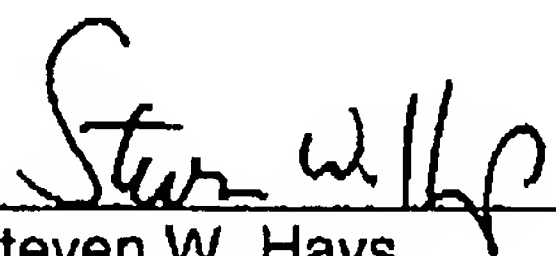
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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3-15, 17, 19, 22-25, 27-28, and 30-35 are in proper form and allowable over the cited prior art. The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney at (248) 223-9500 if any matters remain unresolved.

Respectfully Submitted,

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